IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 985

International Court of Justice

1710-75
H0985-0002

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946

26 June 1946

COMMISSIONER:

Mr. George R. Taylor

THE CORPS OF POLITICAL LEADERS

(The Commission reconvened at 1445 Hours)

DR. KARL FRANZ CHUDOBA, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

BY MR. GEORGE R. TAYLOR:

Q What is your name

A. Dr. Karl Franz Chudoba

Q. Will the witness stand and raise his right hand and repeat after me?

I swear by God, the Almighty and Omniscient, that I will speak the whole truth and will withhold and add nothing.

(The witness repeats the oath)

K.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. GRUBE (As assistant to Dr. Servatius)

Q. When and where were you born?

A. September 9, 1898, at Watzow, district of Gaya, in the southern part of Moravia.

Q. Please describe briefly your professional career.

A. I was active as an officer in the Austrian Army from 1916 to 1919. I was a grade school teacher from 1919 to 1923. While I was a grade school teacher, I studied at the University of Vienna and received the decree of Doctor of philosophy in 1924. Subsequently I became an assistant in the museum for natural history in Vienna, and later as an assistant at the University of Freiburg.

H0985 - 0003

Beginning with October 1, 1928, I was an instructor and then as an extraordinary professor in University of Bonn. On January 1, 1938, I became extraordinary professor/(Privatdozent) in the University of Bonn, and on November 1, 1939, I became rector which would conform to president of/Friedrich-Wilhelm University at Bonn, which I remained until the end of the WAR.

Q. When did you join the Nazi Party?

A. In May 1933.

Q. Why did you join the Nazi Party?

A. I was anAustrian and as such a foreigner in the Reich, I desired to demonstrate my readiness to contribute to the solutions of the tasks of the new State.

Q. As an academic teacher and even a rector of German university, you were in close contact with the German teachers and students and should be equipped to give information on their professional organizations. Did there exist a special organization of the academic teachers and students?

A. There existed before 1933, associations for the university assistants, for the extraordinary professors and for the ordinary professors, and before 1933, already there existed students' associations which were called Deutsche Studentenschaft. The Deutsche Studentenschaft remained in existence after 1933, while the associations of the assistants, the extraordinary and ordinary professors/were dissolved and combined into an association called Dozentenschaft. It is important to stress that you belonged automatically either to the Deutsche Studentenschaft or Dozentenschaft as soon as you entered a university, either as a student or academic teacher, you automatically belonged to the Deutsche Studentenschaft or Dozentenschaft.

Q. And there existed in addition to it, N.S. Studentenbund and N.S. Dozentenbund - is that correct?

A. The N.S. Studentenbund existed already since 1926, and was a national

2

H0985-0004

socialist party organization of students. The N.S. Dozentenbund was organized in 1935, and it is important to stress that not only national socialist party members could belong to it, but non-party members could actually join also.

Q. Were the N.S. Studentenbund and N.S. Dozentenbund incorporated into the framework of the Nazi ~~Party~~ Party?

A. They were organizations of the Party.

Q. What was the different office/ holders of the N.S.Studentenbund and N.S. Dozentenbund?

A. In each university town there existed a local Student Fuehrer (student leader) and local Dozentenschaft Fuehrer (local academic teacher leader). It is important that neither the student's leader nor the professor's leader belong in any way to the leadership of the Party. If there existed in one Gau more than one university there was appointed in addition to the local students' and teachers' leaders, Gau students' leaders and Gau teachers' leaders, and on the top there existed a Reich leader of the students and Reich leader of the teachers.

Q. What was your position?

A. In 1937, I became leader of the local teachers' bund, and beginning with March 1938, I became the Gau leader of the academic teachers in the Gau Cologne-Aachen.

Q. Did you meet with other Gau teachers' leaders?

A. Annually the local Gau teachers and leaders met for working conferences which were called by the Reich teachers' leader.

Q. Was there any organizational link between the Gau teachers' leaders and the Hoheitstrager of the Party - that would mean the Gauleiter ~~of~~, so that you could be called a staff officer of the Gauleiter?

A. Not in any manner, because the Gauleiter had no right at all to give

H0985-0005

any directives either to the Gau teachers' leader of the Gau students' leader.

Q. Did you read before the end of the war the organizational book of the Nazi Party?

A. No, I never had it in my hand.

Q. Drl Link showed it to you, didn't he?

A. Yes.

Q. Were the N.S. Studentenbund and the N.S. Dozentenbund coordinated to the staff of the Gauleiter?

A. Since there was a totality claim of the Nazi Party on some level, the students' association and the teachers' association were tied up with the Party. It is important to stress that the frames in which those two organizations are listed are not in bold type, but marked with little dots. That different kind of marking indicates on the basis of the organization book that those two organizations did not hold office in the staff of the Gauleiter. Only in disciplinary respects were the Gau students' and Gau teachers' leaders subordinate to the Gauleiter.

Q. What do you mean by the expression "only ~~xxx~~ in disciplinary"?

A. Whenever a member of the Party or candidate of membership violated any order of the Party, he was subordinate to the Gauleiter. That means if the Gau students' leader and the Gau teachers' leader were on the staff of the Gauleiter - that means they were subordinate to him and not to the local Gau.

Q. Did you personally have any contacts with your Gauleiter?

A. Only so far that every ~~xxxxx~~ three or four months the Gauleiter held gatherings - so called Appelle, and I went to Cologne to participate in that, but the heads of the State offices attended thos Appelle just as well as the reporters of the press and so the next day it was published those who went - in the daily press.

Q. You claim that professionally you were entirely independent from the Gauleiter?

A. Entirely so. The work of the N.S. Dozentenbund was merely a professional

H0985-0006

work emerging from those professional problems for which the N.S. Dozentenbund had been created. Furthermore the Gau Dozentenbund leader and the Gau Studentenbund leader had no report on their activities to their Gauleiter, and the Gauleiter did not receive any information on the outcome of their conferences, and it was characteristic that the answer to any inquiry which may have reached the Gau Dozentenbund leader - the answer had to be sent completely to the Reich leaders of the teachers. On the other hand, the internal correspondents within the Dozentenbund was entirely an internal affair and was not shared by any outside office.

Q. Your statements are not entirely in accordance with the organization book of the Party and therefore I would like to have you express your opinion of page 260 of the Organization Book, fourth edition. It says, it is the taks of the N.S. Dozentenbund to train the entire body of xx academic teachers in the sense of national socialist pkx philosophy in coordination with the chief of the organization of Nazi Party, Hauptschulangsamt - main training office. What do you have to say to that?

A. Only from that organization book I learned that there existed a Reichsorganisationsleiter , and that it maintained a main training office (Hauptschulangsamt) with which we were supposed to be in contact. There was no training done at all in connection with those organizations. The only thing I know is that the office of Rosenberg continuously contacted the Reich leaders of the academic leaders, because the Amt Rosenberg desired to do the training. I know that within the framework of the N.S. Dozentenbund, no academic teachers received any training either through the Amt. Rosenberg or through the training office of Ley's organization.

Q. The Organization Book further stated the members of the N.S. Dozentenbund belong as teachers at the same time to the N.S. teachers' bund, is that correct?

A. That is again incorrect. No member of the academic teachers' association belonged automatically or involuntarily to the general N.S. teachers' association

Com. B.
Winkler
Take 3- page 11
1400 - 1530 hours
Chudoba
26 June 1946

H0985 - 0007

Actually I know that whenever members of the teachers' association wanted to join the Dozentenbund, the association of academic teachers, then they left the teachers' association.

Q. The Organization Book claims that the local academic teachers' leader was appointed upon suggestion of the Gau academic teachers' leader by the Gauleiter, is that correct?

A. All appointments and dismissals of academic teachers' leaders were performed by the Reich leader of academic teachers in coordination with the Gauleiter, but just the opposite way as sketched by the Organization Book was followed.

Q. So it is incorrect that the local leaders were appointed by the Gauleiter?

A. No, it was done by the Reich leaders of the academic teachers - after having heard the Gauleiter.

Q. Then it would be equally wrong what the Organization Book claims that the Gau academic teachers' leader was appointed by the Gauleiter?

A. Equally, the Gau leader of academic teachers by the Reich leader - after having heard the Gauleiter.

Q. The Organization Book further claims that there were under the Gau leaders of academic teachers four sub-offices. They are listed. It is true in the offices of the association of academic teachers, which would mean even in accordance with the Organization Book, there was no connections to the Hoheitstraegers, but I would like to ask you did those four sub-offices actually exist were they actually filled?

A. I don't know of a single Gau academic teachers' leader who held even a single one of those sub-offices and certainly not four. Gau academic teachers' leader did not have a secretary or an assistant.

H0985-0008

Q. Did those discrepancies between the Organization Book and actually existing conditions exist equally in regard to the students' association?

A. Yes, the same discrepancies existed, only that the students' organization had more co-workers than the academic teachers' association, because the membership was larger.

Q. Isn't it rather striking that there is so much of a discrepancy between the Organization Book and the existing conditions - which mean in many respects the Organization Book is incorrect? How do you explain that?

A. Without any doubt there existed large number of discrepancies between actual conditions and the Organization Book, and it equally true that the picture given by the Organization Book is merely a theoretical picture of some future state of affairs and not at all the picture of the conditions as they actually existed at the time.

Q. I'll summarize and ask you whether the following is correct. The students' association and the academic teachers' association were independent organizations. Their members and officers were not incorporated in the Political Leadership nor their Gau leaders nor even their Reich leaders. The Gau leader of the students and the Gau leader of the academic teachers had no office in the staff of the Gauleiter, and at the very best could be characterized as experts and liaison men to the Gauleiter. They were in no way Political Leaders, but leaders of independent organizations. Is that correct?

A. I can't answer that long question by saying it is correct.

Q. Did you know that ~~pxxixx~~ points 1, 2 and 3 of the party program to mean demand forthe union of all Germans on the basis of a self-governing Reich of all people. #2, the deman for equal rights of German People. #3 the demand for the cancellation of the peace treaties of Versailles and Auschluss, and the demand for colonies. Did you know that all those points were part of a program for

H0985-0009

the domination and conquest of foreign soil?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you know that all Political Leaders in the Party desired to get those aims ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ accomplished regardless of whether it should be done by legal or illegal means?

A. I never heard that such a demand was made of the Political Leaders.

Q. How can you imagine that those three points would be realized?

A. As an Austrian I was particularly interested in the realization of point #1, and I imagine the Reich self-determining nation would have done as ~~xxxxxxx~~ had been expressed in 1918 in Salzburg. I thought that that right would sooner or later lead to peace - Auschluss of Austria. The usual rights for Germany ~~xxx~~ by vote to report to a realization at Geneva through the League of Nations where it had been discussed with the people. In so far as the colonies were concerned they were only mandates and it could be hoped that sooner or later a peaceful ~~xxxxx~~ settlement would be reached through the various Parties through them.

MR. TAYLOR: Commission will take a ten minute recess.

(Recess - @ 1325 hours)

H0985-0010

Q. Did you believe in the sincerity of the promises and assurances of peace given by Hitler and the supreme leadership since and before 1933--up to and including the period shortly before the outbreak of the war?

A. Yes. I was convinced that they were sincere.

Q. Do you know whether this opinion was shared by the other members of the Dozentenschaft?

A. Yes.

Q. And you know that the demand for the dissolution of parliamentary forms, and the realization of this demand after the seizure of power, and the substitution of the fuehrer principle, happened because the NSDAP wished to rule State and people, wished to prepare wars and lead them, so as to enable them to commit crimes against humanity?

A. I never heard that opinion before, nor did I ever think of such a thing after 1933.

Q. Did you know that the reason for the issuing of many laws since 1933, which gave the NSDAP a great influence in the lives of the German people, was the same reason?

A. It was absolutely unknown to me.

Q. The Prosecution charges that, for the same reason, protective custody in concentration camps was instituted. Did you know that that was the reason for concentration camps and the institution of protective custody?

A. No. This opinion is new to me.

Q. Did you know that the exclusion of Jews from public life was asked for the same reason--which is to say, to start a war? And that these demands were fulfilled by special edicts concerning Jews?

A. This is the first time anyone has presented this view to me.

Q. Did you know that the German Labor Front was substituted for the free trade unions for the same reason?

H0985-0011

A. No. Never.

Q. Did you know that it was intended to eliminate the church and its teachings and to substitute for them National Socialist teachings?

A. No; quite to the contrary. After 1933 I frequently heard that a good National Socialist also could be a good Christian, and also vice versa.

Q. Do you know of any conferences of subordinate organs, such as block and zellen leiters, where the theme of preparation for war came into discussion or where plans for such a scheme were laid out?

A. I have never heard anything of such preparation by public officials, nor have I ever been told of it.

Q. Did any office to which you were subordinated at any time ever inform you of any plansfor crimes such as were just mentioned here?

A. Never.

Q. Did you know of the so-called "Fuehrer Order" dated 11 January 1940, stating that classified material had to be kept secret except for those immediately concerned with it?

A. I heard of this directive when I was on the Eastern Front, and I know exactly how this Fuehrer Order regarding restricted material was obeyed.

COLONEL GRIFFITH-JONES: Do you have that document number here?

DR. GRUBE: I haven't, but I have it in the document book.

By DR. GRUBE:

Q. Is it correct that rumors which arose, for instance in regard to the treatment of Jews in the Eastern countries, were immediately classified and contradicted by the supreme leadership in such a manner that everyone had to believe these explanations?

A. I have never heard of any official contradictions from any office.

Q. Did one read in the papers or in announcements that rumors pertaining,

H0985 - 0012

for instance, to Katyn, with which Germans were charged, were incorrect?

A. I heard about Katyn only when several professors and researchers said it was a matter of a crime which, however, was not to be charged to the Germans, but rather to the Russians. In connection with this, the discussion veered into the direction that the Germans were to be charged with it.

DR. GRUBE: No further questions.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY COLONEL GRIFFITH-JONES:

Q. What was the purpose of the representative of the Dozentenschaft on the gauleiter's staff?

A. The gauleiter asked the Dozentenschaft representative to report on the scientific and political qualifications and attitudes of the student body and the teaching body, if the questions came up of an appointment, a promotion, or, perhaps, whether a professor should be decorated. The Gaudozentenfuehrer then referred this question to the local Dozentenfuehrer. When he received an answer, he transferred it to the gauleiter, and a copy of it went to the Reichsdozentenfuehrer.

Q. What was the object of knowing the political attitude of teachers in order to make appointments and promotions? What did the political attitudes of teachers have to do with their appointments and promotions?

A. Paragraph 26 of the civil service law required that the aspirant must be certified by either a State or political office to be willing to be committed for the work of the new State. That was not a matter of a Party political directive, but a law, so that I myself--in my capacity as a rector--made the same sort of reports as both the Gaudozentenfuehrer and the Dozentenfuehrer. This was already customary before 1933.

Q. In other words, it was the Gaudozentenfuehrer's duty to see to it that

H0985-0013

teachers and students were politically reliable from the point of view of the Nazi Party?

A. I can only say that it was not the Gaudozentenfuehrers who worried about that, but rather that they put scientific values in the foreground.

Q. But the Gaudozentenfuehrer had to report on their political reliability as well?

A. He reported just that the people were not Party members. As Gaudozentenfuehrer and as rector of the Rheinischer Friedrich-Wilhelm University in Bonn, I can testify that I appointed and called as my assistant professors those who were not Party members. Also, in the academic Senate I had many professors who were not Party members. Academic honors, during the five years I functioned, were given, peculiarly enough, only to non-Party members.

Q. But it would be right to say, would it not, that as a general rule anybody who was not a Party member did not get either appointments or promotions in any branch of the civil service?

A. In the academic world, the faculties still retained the right to suggest people. As far as the faculties were concerned, the main point for an appointment was an academic qualification. The reason for the establishment of the Dozentenbund in 1935 was that scientists should be scientists. If the Party membership would have been the decisive factor--if it would have come to that--the Party membership and the services for the Party would have been the primary basis.

Q. Can you tell me, if that was so, what the object was in having a report on the political reliability of the profewsors?

A. The appointment of any higher public official was made by the Reichsminister of Education, after he had contacted the Reichs Chancellery.

Q. I am sure that we can answer this more shortly. If the appointment in no way depended upon the political views, what was the point in the gauleiter's

H0985 - 0014

having a report on the political views?

A. The gauleiter received inquiries from the Reichsleitung, and consequently the gauleiter wanted to know the opinion of the Dozentenfuehrer. At the same time, he inquired of the Kreisleitung and the SD. ~~Those~~ Thus three independent opinions were given on such a personality.

Q. I know, but I ask you again, and ask you for the last time: What had the political views of the man to do with his appointment? You say that it wasn't necessary for him to be a member of the Party in order to be appointed. What purpose, then, was there in having a report on his political reliability at all?

A. The Party desired an opinion on each and every one of them.

Q. Wasn't the truth of this that the Party maintained, or set out to maintain, a rigid political control over every aspect of German life? And that the Gaudozentenfuehrer formed a means whereby ~~the~~ they maintained that control over the academic teachers?

A. The Gaudozentenfuehrer did not have any political leadership, for the local dozentenfuehrung were those who were rooted in the university. The local ~~xxxxxQx~~ dozentenfuehrer was not a member of the staff of any Party leadership ~~o~~ organization, and the best proof of this is that every college and university had professors and assistant professors who were not Party members; in the second place, professors were called from one university to another.

Q. I don't want to cut you short, unless Dr. Link thinks the matter of your answer is important.

DR. LINK: I cannot say.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

BY COLONEL GRIFFITH-JONES:

Q. I want to ask you about another matter. Was it necessary for the students in a university to be Party members?

H0985-0015

A. During the last period, there was no question but that most of the students were Party members, because they came from the Hitler youth. There were male and female students who weren't Party members.

Q. Was it not necessary to be a Party member to be a member of a university?

A. No.

Q. And it was not necessary, was it, to be a member of any Party organization to be a student at a university?

A. It was a request, but it was not ultimately executed.

Q. I have before me a copy of the chart in the Organizations Book showing the organization of the Kreisleitung, and I see that there is no equivalent of the Dozentenbund or the Studentenbund.

A. I have mentioned before that the local Dozentenfuehrer, who would belong on the level of the kreis, was not a member of the staff of the kreisleiter.

Q. So that the only group that you represent, as a so-called political leiter, are the Gaudozentenfuehrers on the Gauleiter's staff?

A. Yes, and the Gaustudentenfuehrer.

Q. There being some forty gauleiters, there were no more than some forty Gaudozentenfuehrers and forty Gaustudentenfuehrers?

A. There were considerably more, because the Gaustudentenfuehrers changed during the twelve years of their period of study. In many gaus, I was already the third Gaudozentenfuehrer.

Q. I agree with you, but subject to the change-over of occupancy of the positions, at any one time there were not more than forty of each?

A. Even less, because not every gauleiter had a Gaudozentenfuehrer--only those gaus which contained several universities.

Q

H0985 - 0016

Q. Can you tell me how many gaus contained a ~~g~~ Gaudozentenfuehrer?

A. Somewhere between twenty and twenty-two.

Q. Can you estimate at all the number of persons that would have held that position during the years 1933 to 1945?

A. Approximately sixty to eighty. As far as Gaustudentenfuehrers are concerned, I estimate them to ~~ha~~ have been approximately 200.

~~MRXXTAXXGRX~~
COLONEL GRIFFITH-JONES: No more questions.

MR. TAYLOR: Do you have any re-examination, Dr. Link?

DR. LINK: I was told that the re-direct examination might be put back until I am able to produce the record--which is supposed to be ready tomorrow. The office of Colonel Neave told me that four o'clock would be the earliest hour the hearing would start. For this reason, I shall appreciate the re-direct examination being put back until the record ~~if~~ is available. The questions for which I was prepared were put already, including up the last question. I have only stressed the question which Dr. Grube put himself on his own account. I believe that I shall have only two or three questions. It should not be difficult to take the witness during intermission very briefly--say tomorrow or day after tomorrow. I will try to talk with the German stenographer so that he can perhaps give it to me from his shorthand notes.

MR. TAYLOR: Very well. The witness will be excused until ten in the morning.

H0985 - 0017

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of DR. KARL FRANZ CHUBOBA, taken on 26 June 1946.

Winkler
Reporter (pp 1 - 8

Noll
Reporter (pp 9 - 15

CERTIFIED TO :

Geo. Taylor
Commissioner

H0985-0018

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946

26 June 1946

COMMISSIONER:

Mr. George R. Taylor

THE CORPS OF POLITICAL LEADERS

(THE COMMISSION RECONVENED AT 1445 HOURS)

DR. KARL FRANZ CHUDOBA, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

BY MR. GEORGE R. TAYLOR:

Q What is your name?

A Dr. Karl Franz Chudoba

Q Will the witness stand and raise his right hand and repeat after me?

I swear by God, the Almighty and Omniscient, that I will speak the whole truth and will withhold and add nothing.

(The witness repeats the oath)

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. GRUBE (As assistant to Dr. Servatius)

Q When and where were you born?

A September 9, 1898, at Watzow, district of Gaya, in the southern part of Moravia.

Q Please describe briefly your professional career.

A I was active as an officer in the Austrian Army from 1916 to 1919. I was a grade school teacher from 1919 to 1923. While I was a grade school teacher, I studied at the University of Vienna and received the decree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1924. Subsequently I became an assistant in the museum for natural history in Vienna, and later as an assistant at the University of Freiburg.

Beginning with October 1, 1928, I was an instructor and then as an extraordinary professor in University of Bonn. On January 1, 1938, I became extraordinary profess (Privatdozent) in the University of Bonn, and on November 1, 1939, I became rector which would conform to the president of Friedrich-Wilhelm University at Bonn, where I remained until the end of the war.

Q When did you join the Nazi Party?

H0985-0019

A In May 1933.

Q Why did you join the Nazi Party?

A I was an Austrian and as such a foreigner in the Reich, I desired to demonstrate my readiness to contribute to the solutions of the tasks of the New State.

Q As an academic teacher and even a rector of German university, you were in close contact with the German teachers and students and should be equipped to give information on their professional organizations. Did there exist a special organization of the academic teachers and students?

A There existed before 1933, associations for the university assistants, for the extraordinary professors and for the ordinary professors, and before 1933, already there existed students' associations which were called Deutsche Studentschaft. The Deutsche Studentenschaft remained in existence after 1933, while the associations of the assistants, the extraordinary and ordinary professors, were dissolved and combined into an association called Dozentenschaft. It is important to stress that you belonged automatically either to the Deutsche Studentenschaft or Dozentenschaft as soon as you entered a university, either as a student or academic teacher, you automatically belonged to the Deutsche Studentenschaft or Dozentenschaft.

Q And there existed in addition to it, N.S. Studentbund and N.S. Dozentenbund -- is that correct?

A The N.S. Studentenbund existed already since 1926, and was a national socialist party organization of students. The N.S. Dozentenbund was organized in 1935, and it is important to stress that not only national socialist party members could belong to it, but non-party members could actually join also.

Q Were the N.S. Studentenbund and N.S. Dozentenbund incorporated into the framework of the Nazi Party?

A They were organizations of the Party.

Q What was the different office holders of the N.S. Studentenbund and N.S. Dozentenbund?

A In each university town there existed a local Student Fuehrer (student leader) and local Dozentenschaft Fuehrer (local academic teacher leader). It is important that neither the student's leader nor the professor's

H0985 - 0020

leader belong in any way to the leadership of the Party. If there existed in one Gau more than one university there was appointed in addition to the local students' and teachers' leaders, Gau students' leaders and Gau teachers' leaders, and on the top there existed a Reich leader of the students and Reich leader of the teachers.

Q What was your position?

A In 1937, I became leader of the local teachers' bund, and beginning with March 1938, I became the Gau leader of the academic teachers in the Gau Cologne-Aachen.

Q Did you meet with other Gau teachers' leaders?

A Annually the local Gau teachers and leaders met for working conferences which were called by the Reich teachers' leader.

Q Was there any organizational link between the Gau teachers' leaders and the Hoheitstraeger of the Party -- that would mean the Gauleiter, so that you could be called a staff officer of the Gauleiter?

A Not in any manner, because the Gauleiter had no right at all to give

any directives either to the Gay techers' leader of the Gau students' leader.

Q Did you read before the end of the war the organizational book of the Nazi Party?

A No, I never had it in my hand.

Q Dr. Link showed it to you, didn't he?

A Yes.

Q Were the N.S. Studentenbund and the N.S. Dozentenbund coordinated to the staff of the Gauleiter?

A Since there was a totality claim of the Nazi Party on some level, the students' association and the techers' association were tied up with the Party. It is important to stress that the frames in which those two organizations are listed are not in bold type, but marked with little dots. That different kind of marking indicates on the basis of the organization book that those two organizations did not hold office in the staff of the Gauleiter. Only in disciplinary respects were the Gau students' and Gau teachers' leaders subordinate to the Gauleiter.

Q What do you mean by the expression "only in disciplinary"?

A Whenever a member of the Party or candidate of membership violated any order of the Party, he was subordinate to the Gauleiter. That means if the Gau students' leader and the Gau teachers' leader were on the staff of the Gauleiter - that means they were subordinate to him and not to the local Gau.

Q Did you personally have any contacts with your Gauleiter?

A Only so far that every three or four months the Gauleiter held gatherings so called Appelle, and I went to Cologne to participate in that, but the heads of the State offices attended those Appelle just as well as the feporters of the press and so the next day it was published those who want - in the daily press.

Q You claim that professionally you were entirely independent from the gauleiter?

A Entirely so. The work of the N.S. Dozentenbund was merely a professional work emerging from those professional problems for whihh the N.S. Dozentenbund had been created. Furthermore the Gau Dozentenbund leader

H0985-0021

and the Gau Studentenbund leader had no report on their activities to their Gauleiter, and the Gauleiter did not receive any information on the outcome of their conferences, and it was characteristic that the answer to any inquiry which may have reached the Gau Dozentenbund leader - the answer had to be sent completely to the Reich leaders of the teachers. On the other hand, the internal correspondents within the Dozentenbund was entirely an internal affair and was not shared by any outside office.

Q Your statements are not entirely in accordance with the organization book of the Party and therefore I would like to have you express your opinion of page 260 of the Organization Book, fourth edition. It says, it is the task of the N.S. Dozentenbund to train the entire body of academic teachers in the sense of national socialist philosophy in coordination with the chief of the organization of Nazi Party, Hauptschulangsamt - main training office. What do you have to say to that?

A Only from that organization book I learned that there existed a Reichsorganizationsleiter, and that it maintained a main training office (Hauptschulangsamt) with which we were supposed to be in contact. There was no training done at all in connection with those organizations. The only thing I know is that the office of Rosenberg continuously contqcted the Reich leaders of the academic leaders, because the Amt Rosenberg desired to do the training. I know that within the framework of the N.S. Dozentenbund, no academic teachers received any training either through the Amt Rosenberg or through the training office of Ley's organization.

Q The Organization Book further stated the members of the N.S. Dozentenbund belong as teachers at the same time to the N.S. teachers' bund, is that correct?

A That is again incorrect. No member of the academic teachers' association belonged automatically or involuntarily to the general N.S. teachers' association. Actually I know that whenever members of the teachers ' association wanted to join the Dozentenbund, the association of academic teachers, then they left the teachers' association.

Q The Organization Book claims that the local academic teachers' leader was appointed upon suggestion of the Gau academic teachers' leader by the Gauleiter, is that correct?

H0985 - 0022

H0985 - 0023

A All appointments and dismissals of academic teachers' leaders were performed by the Reich leader of academic teachers in coordination with the Gauleiter, but just the opposite way as sketched by the Organization Book was followed.

Q So it is incorrect that the local leaders were appointed by the Gauleiter?

A No, it was done by the Reich leaders of the academic teachers - after having heard the Gauleiter.

Q Then it would be equally wrong what the Organization Book claims that the Gau academic teachers' leader was appointed by the Gauleiter?

A Equally, the Gau leader of academic teachers by the Reich Leader - after having heard the Gauleiter.

Q The Organization Book further claims that there were under the Gau leaders of academic teachers four sub-offices. They are listed. It is true in the offices of the association of academic teachers, which would mean even in accordance with the Organization Book, there was no connection to the Hoheitstraegers, but I would like to ask you did those four sub-offices actually exist - were they actually filled?

A I don't know of a single Gau academic teachers' leader who held even a single one of those sub-offices and certainly not four. Gau academic teachers' leader did not have a secretary or an assistant.

H0985-0024

Q Did those discrepancies between the Organization Book and actually existing conditions exist equally in regard to the students' association?

A Yes, the same discrepancies existed, only that the students' organization had more co-workers than the academic teachers' association, because the membership was larger.

Q Isn't it rather striking that there is so much of a discrepancy between the Organization Book and the existing conditions -- which mean in many respects the Organization Book is incorrect?? How do you explain that?

A Without any doubt there existed large number of discrepancies between actual conditions and the Organization Book, and it is equally true that the picture given by the Organization Book is merely a theoretical picture of some future state of affairs and not at all the picture of the conditions as they actually existed at the time.

Q I'll summarize and ask you whether the following is correct. The students' association and the academic teachers' association were independent organizations. Their members and officers were not incorporated in the Political Leadership nor their Gau leaders nor even their Reich leaders. The Gau leader of the students and the Gau leader of the academic teachers had no office in the staff of the Gauleiter, and at the very best could be characterized as experts and liaison men to the Gauleiter. They were in no way Political Leaders, but leaders of independent organizations. Is that correct?

A I can't answer that long question by saying it is correct.

Q Did you know that points 1, 2 and 3 of the party program to mean demand for the union of all Germans on the basis of a self-governing Reich of all people. #2, the demand for equal rights of German People. #3 the demand for the cancellation of the peace treaties of Versailles and Auschluss, and the demand for colonies. Did you know that all those points were part of a program for the domination and conquest of foreign soil?

A No, sir.

Q Did you know that all Political Leaders in the Party desired to get those aims accomplished regardless of whether it should be done by legal or illegal means?

H0985-0025

A I never heard that such a demand was made of the Political Leaders.

Q How can you imagine that those three points would be realized?

A As an Austrian I was particularly interested in the realization of point #1, and I imagine the Reich self-determining nation would have done as had been expressed in 1918 in Salzburg. I thought that that right would sooner or later lead to peace -- Anschluss of Austria. The usual rights for Germany by vote to report to a realization at Geneva through the League of Nations where it had been discussed with the people. In so far as the colonies were concerned they were only mandates and it could be hoped that sooner or later a peaceful settlement would be reached through the various Parties through them.

MR. TAYLOR: Commission will take a ten minute recess.

(Recess -- 1325 hours)

Q Did you believe in the sincerity of the promises and assurances of peace given by Hitler and the supreme leadership since and before 1933 -- up to and including the period shortly before the outbreak of the war?

A Yes. I was convinced that they were sincere.

Q Do you know whether this opinion was shared by the other members of the Dozentenschaft?

A Yes.

Q And you know that the demand for the dissolution of parliamentary forms, and the realization of this demand after the seizure of power, and the substitution of the fuehrer principle, happened because the NSDAP wished to rule State and people, wished to prepare wars and lead them, so as to enable them to commit crimes against humanity?

A I never heard that opinion before, nor did I ever think of such a thing after 1933.

Q Did you know that the reason for ths issuing of many laws since 1933, which gave the NSDAP a great influence in the lives of the German people, was the same reason?

A It was absolutely unknown to me.

Q The Prosecution charges that, for the same reason, protective custody in concentration camps was instituted. Did you know that that was

H0985 - 0026

the reason for the concentration camps and the institution of protective custody?

A No. This opinion is new to me.

Q Did you know that the exclusion of Jews from public life was asked for the same reason -- which is to say, to start a war? And that these demands were fulfilled by special edicts concerning Jews.

A This is the first time anyone has presented this view to me.

Q Did you know that the German Labor Front was substituted for the free trade unions for the same reason?

H0985-0027

A. No. Never.

Q. Did you know that it was intended to eli inate the church and its teachings and to substitute for them National Socialist teachings ?

A. No; quite to the contrary. After 1933 I frequently heard that a good National Socialist also could be a good Christian, and vice versa.

Q. Do you know of any conferences of subordinate organs, such as block and zellen leiters, where the theme of preparation for war came into discussion or where plans for such a scheme were laid out ?

A. I have never heard anything of such preparation by public officials, nor have I ever been told of it.

Q. Did any office to which you were subordinated at any time ever inform you of any plans for crimes such as were just mentioned here ?

A. Never.

Q. Did you know of the so-called "Fuehrer Order" dated 11 January 1940, stating that classified material had to be kept secret except for those immediately concerned with it ?

A. I heard of this directive when I was on the Eastern Front, and I know exactly how this Fuehrer Order regarding restricted material was obeyed.

COLONEL GRIFFITH JONES: Do you have that document number here ?

DR. GRUVE: I haven't, but I have it in the document book.

BY DR. GRUBE:

Q. Is it correct that rumors which arose, for instance in regard to the treatment of Jews in the Eastern countries, were immediately classified and contradicted by the supreme leadership in such a manner that everyone had to believe these explanations.

A. I have never heard of any official contradictions from any office.

Q. Did one read in the papers or in announcements that rumors pertaining for instance, to Katyn, with which Germans were charged, were incorrect ?

A. I heard about Katyn only when several professors and researchers said ot was a matter of crime which, however, was not to be charged to the Germans, but rather to the Russians. In connection with this, the discussion veered into the direction that the Germans were to be charged with it.

DR. GRUBE: No further question.

H0985 - 0028

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY COLONEL GRIFFITH JONES:

Q. What was the purpose of the representative of the Dozentenschaft on the gauleiter's staff ?

A. The gauleiter asked the Dozentenschaft representative to report on the scientific and political qualifications and attitudes of the student body and the teaching body, if the questions came up of an appointment, a promotion, or, perhaps, whether a professor should be decorated. The Gaudozentenfuehrer then referred this question to the local Dozentenfuehrer. When he received an answer, he transferred it to the Gauleiter, and a copy of it went to the Reichsdozentenfuehrer.

Q. What was the object of knowing the political attitude of teachers in order to make appointments and promotions ? What did the political attitude of teachers have to do with their appointments and promotions ?

A. Paragraph 26 of the civil service law required that the aspirant must be certified by either a State or political office to be willing to be committed for the work of the new State. That was not a matter of a Party political directive, but a law, so that I myself -- in my capacity as a rector -- made the same sort of reports as both the Gaudozentenfuehrer and the Dozentenfuehrer This was already customary before 1933.

Q. In other words, it was the Gaudozentenfuehrer's duty to see to it that teachers and students were politically reliable from the point of view of the Nazi Party ?

A. I can only say that it was not the Gaudozentenfuehrers who worried about that, but rather that they put scientific values in the foreground.

Q. But the Gaudozentenfuehrer had to report on their political reliability as well ?

A. He reported just that the people were not Party members. As Gaudozentenfuehrer and as rector of the Rheinischer Friedrich Wilhelm University in Bonn, I can testify that I/
appointed and called as my assistant professors those who were not Party members. Also, in the academic Senate I had many professors who were not Party members. Academic honors, during the five years I functioned, were given peculiarly enough, only to non-Party members.

H0985-0029

Q. But it would be right to say, would it not, that as a general rule anybody who was not a Party member did not get either appointments or promotions in any branch of the civil service ?

A. In the academic world, the faculties still retained the right to suggest people. As far as the faculties were concerned, the main point for an appointment was an academic qualification. The reason for the establishment of the Dozentenbund in 1935 was that scientists should be scientists. If the Party membership would have been the decisive factor -- if it would have come to that -- the Party membership and the services for the Party would have been primary basis.

Q. Can you tell me, if that was so, what the object was in having a report on the political reliability of the professors ?

A. The appointment of any higher public official was made by the Reichsminister of Education, after he had contacted the Reichs Chancellery.

Q. I am sure that we can answer this more shortly. If the appointment in no way depended upon the political views, what was the point in the gauleiter's

H0985-0030

having a report on the political views?

A The gauleiter received inquiries from the Reichsleitung, and consequently the gauleiter wanted to know the opinion of the Dozentenfuehrer. At the same time, he inquired ofthe Kreisleitung and the SD. Thus three independent opinions were given on such a personality.

Q I know, but I ask you again, and ask you for the last time: What had the political views of the man to do with his appointment? You say that it wasn't necessary for him to be a member of the Party in order to be appointed. What purpose, then, was there in having a report on his political reliability at all?

A The Party desired an opinion on each and every one of them.

Q Wasn't the truth of this that the Party maintained, or set out to maintain, a rigid political control over every aspect of German life? And that the Gaudozentenfuehrer formed a means where they maintained that control over the academic teachers?

A The Gaudozentenfuehrer did not have any politicalleadership, for local dozentenfuehrung were those who were rooted in the university. The local dozentenfuehrer was not a member of the staff of any Party leadership organization, and the best proof of this is that every college and university had professors and assistant professor who were not Party members; in the second place, professors were called from one university to another.

Q I don't want to cut you short, unless Dr. Link thinks the matter of your answer is important.

DR. LINK: I cannot say.

BY COLONEL GRIFFITH JONES:

Q I wans to ask you about another matter. Was it necessary for the students in a university to be Party members?

A During the last period,there was no question but that most of the students were Party members, because they came from the Hitler youth. There were male and female students who weren't Party members.

Q Was it not necessary to be a Party member to be a member of a university?

A No.

Q And it was not necessary, was it, to be a member of any Party organization to be a student at a university?

A It was a request, but it was not ultimately executed.

Q I have before me a copy of the chart in the Organizations Book showing the organization of the Kreisleitung, and I see that there is no equivalent of the Dozentenbund or the Studentenbund.

A I have mentioned before that the local Dozentenfuehrer, who would belong on the level of the kreis, was not a member of the staff of the kreisleiter.

Q So that the only group that you represent, as a so-called political leiter, are the Gaudozentenfuehrers on the Gauleiter's staff?

A Yes, and the Gaustudentenfuehrer.

Q There being some forty gauleiters, there were no more than some forty Gaudozentenfuehrers and forty Gaustudentenfuehrers?

A There were considerably more, because the Gaustudentenfuehrers changed during the twelve years of their period of study. In many gaus, I was already the third Gaudozentenfuehrer.

Q I agree with you, but subject to the change-over of occupancy of the positions, at any one time there were not more than forty of each?

A Even less, because not every gauleiter had a Gaudozentenfuehrer -- only those gaus which contained several universities.

Q Can you tell me how many gaus contained a Gaudozentenfuehrer?

A Somewhere between twenty and twenty-two.

Q Can you estimate at all the number of persons that would have held that position during the years 1933 to 1945?

A Approximately sixty to eighty. As far as Gaustudentenfuehrers are concerned, I estimate them to have been approximately 200.

COLONEL GRIFFITH JONES: No more questions.

MR. TAYLOR: Do you have any re-examination, Dr. Link?

DR. LINK: I was told that the re-direct examination might be put back until I am able to produce the record --which is supposed to be ready tomorrow. The office of Colonel Neave told me that four o'clock would be the earliest hour the hearing would start. For this reason, I shall appreciate the re-direct examination being put back until the record is available. The

H0985 - 0031

H0985 - 0032

questions for which I was prepared were put already, including up the last question. I have only stressed the question which Dr. Grube put himself on his own account. I believe that I shall have only two or three questions. I should not be difficult to take the witness during intermission very briefly -- say tomorrow or day after tomorrow. I will try to talk with the German stenographer so that he can perhaps give it to me from his shorthand notes.

MR. TAYLOR: Very well. The witness will be excused until ten in the morning.

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of DR. KARL FRANZ CHUBOBA, taken on 26 [illegible] 1946.

Winkler
Reporter

Noll
Reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

George R. Taylor
Commissioner